

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6192

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 3270

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOLINA

1. YESTERDAY, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM, I MET WITH PRESIDENT MOLINA FOR AN HOUR. I THANKED HIM FOR HIS CABLES TO PRESIDENT NIXON AND PRESIDENT FORD WHICH WERE PUBLISHED IN THE LOCAL PRESS ON AUGUST 12. UNOFFICIAL TEM FOLLOWS:

"SAN SALVADOR, AUGUST 10, 1974

"MR RICHARD M NIXON, SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

"ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR

I EXPRESS TO YOU OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR YOUR NOBLE PERSONAL EFFORTS IN FAVOR OF WORLD PEACE. SINCERELY YOURS, ARTURO ARMANDO MOLINA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR."

"SAN SALVADOR, AUGUST 10, 1974

"MR GERALD FORD, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, DC

"ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR I EXPRESS TO YOU OUR CONGRATULATIONS AND I WISH YOU ALL SUCCESS IN YOUR TERM. SINCERELY YOURS, ARTURO ARMANDO MOLINA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR."

2. TOLD THE PRESIDENT THAT I WOULD LIKE TO INFORM HIM A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE TRANSFER OF THE PRESIDENCY. COVERED THE POINTS INCLUDED IN STATE 174079, GUIDANCE ON TRANSFER
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OF PRESIDENCY. THEN TOLD HIM THAT AT THE REQUEST OF SECRETARY

I HAD DELIVERED A MESSAGE TO HIS MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND I HANDED HIM A TRANSLATION OF THE LETTER WHICH HE READ. I STATED THAT THE RELATIONS BETWEEN EL SALVADOR AND THE UNITED STATES HAD ALWAYS BEEN FRIENDLY AND THAT WE HAD ESTABLISHED A VERY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP. I EXPECTED TO MAINTAIN THIS TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIP AND THAT I WAS COMPLETELY CONFIDENT THAT UNDER THE NEW PRESIDENT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO IMPROVE OUR ALREADY EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP.

3. PRESIDENT MOLINA ACKNOWLEDGED WITH THANKS THE GUIDANCE GIVEN AND NOTED WITH PLEASURE THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE OUR COMMITMENT TO LATIN AMERICA AND OUR EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH EL SALVADOR.

4. HE ALSO NOTED THAT GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER WAS ON THE REPORTED LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR VICE PRESIDENT AND VOICED HIS OWN RESPECT AND FAVORABLE OPINION OF HIM, NOTING THAT ROCKEFELLER HAD A LONG AND FAVORABLE HISTORY OF ASSOCIATION WITH LATIN AMERICA, THAT HE HAD MET HIM IN 1969 DURING HIS TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT NIXON AND THAT HE CONSIDERED ROCKEFELLER'S TRIP REPORT TO BE OUTSTANDING.

5. HE THEN MOVED INTO HIS OBSERVATIONS ON PROBLEMS IN EL SALVADOR WHICH WE WILL CABLE IN DETAIL.
CAMPBELL

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